

House of Representatives

State of Tennessee

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## TRE' HARGETT 97TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

103 WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243 (615) 741-8201

6361 BRIERGATE DRIVE BARTLETT, TENNESSEE 38134 (901) 377-5350

rep.tre.hargett@legislature.state.tn.us

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July 30, 2004

NASHVILLE

HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FINANCE, WAYS, AND MEANS

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON TENNCARE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, VICE CHAIRMAN

04-70

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to you to affirm my support of the pending merger of Cingular Wireless and AT&T Wireless. In the telecommunications industry, wireless communication is one of the most significant growth drivers. Tennesseans are fully interested in better coverage, improved reliability, and enhanced call quality.

As a member of the Tennessee House Finance, Ways and Means Committee, I receive yearly updates from the Department of Commerce and Insurance/Tennessee Emergency Communication Division regarding the progress of E 9-1-1 deployment and the status of that account. Tennessee was an early leader in establishing and funding state coordination of wireless 911 deployment, and now benefits from broad deployment of Phase I and Phase II services.

I believe the capabilities of each company to implement and improve the afore mentioned services will be strengthened by their merger.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my views on this issue. Should you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Tre' Hargett Republican Leader

Tennessee House of Representatives, District 97